



THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF VERNON

MINUTES OF THE CLIMATE ACTION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

HELD
THURSDAY, MAY 14, 2020

PRESENT: VOTING

Brian Guy (Co-Chair), Science, Technology & Environmental Services

Mary Stockdale, Educators and Educational Institutions (via phone)

Councillor Brian Quiring, (Appointed Member, via phone)(1:53 p.m.)

Stan Eaman, Health & Social Services

Ed Wilson, Community at Large Rep. (via phone)

Bill Darnell, Community Stewardship (Co-Chair, via phone)

Ayesha Sheikh, Youth Member (via phone)

Jenn Comazzetto, SD 22 Board Rep. (via phone)

Melissa Kriening, Youth Member (via phone)

Colleen Dix, Utility Services and Providers (via phone)

NON-VOTING

Mayor Victor Cumming (Alternate Member)

Alan Gee, Fulton Secondary (via phone)

ABSENT: Kevin McCarty, Business & Commercial Services
Hayden Catt, Youth Member

STAFF: Laurie Cordell, Manager, Long Range Planning & Sustainability/Staff Liaison
Daniel Sturgeon, Long Range Planner
Janice Nicol, Legislative Committee Clerk

ORDER The Chair called the meeting to order at 1:05 p.m.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA Moved by Stan Eaman, seconded by Councillor Quiring;

THAT the agenda of the Climate Action Advisory Committee meeting for Thursday, May 14, 2020 be adopted.

CARRIED.

ADOPTION OF MINUTES Moved by Stan Eaman, seconded by Melissa Kriening;

THAT the minutes for the Climate Action Advisory Committee meeting of April 14, 2020 be adopted.

CARRIED.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

**UPDATE ON CAP
PROCESS**

Since the last meeting, Staff have been working with consultants to get exactly what is needed in the CAP.

There was an Engagement Working Group meeting – survey to be re-initiated, looking at creative ways to engage community online.

Focus is on presentation to Council at their June 8th meeting for recommended Priority Actions for 2021 Budget Consideration.

Council’s Strategic Planning Meeting is scheduled for June 19th, 2020.

NEW BUSINESS:

**CLIMATE ACTION
PLAN PROCESS –
BUDGET ITEM
PROCESS**

The Committee discussed the key budget items from the Climate Action Plan Process. The following points were noted:

- Expectation is that budget for 2021 will be constrained due to pandemic
- Strategy for 2021: building foundations for the long term success of the Climate Action Plan, while choosing work that is underway and can be extended, preferably at relatively low cost
- Most of the Committee was involved in previous workshops, reminder of themes from workshops:
 - Community Governance – Goal: Vernon is a climate-ready local government
 - Community Infrastructure and Services – Goal: Vernon is a community with quality, climate-ready infrastructure and services
 - Land Use and Transportation - Goal: Vernon is a leader with a compact community that is prepared for climate impacts and uses active and low carbon transportation
 - Ecosystem Health and Biodiversity – Goal: Vernon is a community that values and protects biodiversity, riparian areas and environmental sensitive areas
 - Buildings and Real Estate – Goal: Vernon has transitioned to zero emission building that are resilient to the impact of climate change

- Economic Development – Goal: Vernon has a thriving clean industrial sector and businesses are adapted to the impacts of climate change
- Agriculture and Food Security – Goal: Vernon is food secure and has a resilient agricultural economy
- Community Health and Well-Being – Goal: Vernon is a healthy, equitable and resilient community
- Words may evolve but themes will stay the same
- Core actions have been pulled out
- Highest risk categories – food security, damages to infrastructure, ability to have emergency response for events affecting tourism and wildfire
- Focus on items that will help citizens save costs
- Results from stakeholder workshops in March – priorities were: corporate governance, objectives to protect infrastructure, alternate transportation, biodiversity, building retrofits, emergency preparedness – these align with high risk themes
- Intent is to complete CAP before budget finalized

22 priority actions from each theme category:

- **Objective 1-1:** The climate changes lens is used across all government activities budgeting, procurement, asset management
- **Objective 1-2:** City of Vernon staff have the knowledge and capacity to ensure climate-ready municipal operations and services
- **Objective 2-1:** Municipal infrastructure, facilities and services are climate-ready ***Suggestion: need to include right-sizing***
- **Objective 2-2:** Utilize natural assets to assist with climate readiness – ***Update - will implement drainage recommendations, Council has resolved to move on one substantial recommendation per year***
- **Objective 2-3:** Update emergency preparedness and response to address climate change hazards – ***Update - significant learning opportunities have surfaced with COVID-19, need to add convergent events to list***
- **Objective 3-2:** Develop resilient transportation networks that provide zero to low carbon mobility solutions – ***Update - opportunities to fill key gaps, actions can be taken quickly, transit plan being updated to integrate climate action plan goals – need to acknowledge that it is not just cars but***

scooters in apartment building that require plug-in, public transit still in plan but timing will be different. Suggest 'cool buses', used to transport many to same destination – i.e. Silver Star

- **Objective 4-2:** Protect and prepare the urban forest from climate change impacts while ensuring planting of new shade trees
- **Objective 5-2:** Retrofit existing buildings to be energy efficient, use zero carbon energy systems, and be resilient to climate change impacts – ***fits best with recovery as it involves savings to citizens***
- **Objective 6-1:** Local businesses are climate-ready – ***ties into recovery – encourage green businesses, how can City encourage and promote businesses in the right direction***
- **Objective 7-1:** Increase food security and opportunities for local food production Vernon — ***support for small scale gardening which contributes to community health and well-being***
- **Objective 8-1:** All members of the community, especially the most at risk and vulnerable, have equitable access to information, support, and resources related to preparing for climate readiness - ***stems from adaptation process – seniors who are home alone without access to food, etc. – ensuring those that are in need get what they need***

Suggestions:

- Develop and implement a streets and neighbors plan – bring together neighbors to see what resources are available and who is isolated. Recommend that Committee explore these neighborhood apps.

Priorities

- Retro-fit program – can start small and work up
- Get clear about pathways and trails linkage and then market
- Recommendation that list be sent out tomorrow and Committee sends back thoughts/highlights/priorities by Tuesday morning
Please remember to hit 'reply all'

Councillor Quiring left the meeting at 1:53 p.m.

Moved by Stan Eaman, seconded by Jenn Commazetto;

THAT the Climate Action Advisory Committee recommends that Administration forward the list of Climate Action Plan implementation priorities, as presented at the Climate Action Advisory Committee meeting of May 14, 2020, for consideration in Council's Strategic Planning and 2021 Budget Process.

CARRIED.

INFORMATION ITEMS:

None

NEXT MEETING

The next regular meeting of the Climate Action Advisory Committee to be announced.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting of the Climate Action Advisory Committee adjourned at 2:12 p.m.

CERTIFIED CORRECT:



Co-Chair

Co-Chair